

Approved March 15, 2017

**Town Meeting Coordinating Committee
Minutes for January 26, 2017, 4:30 – 6:30 pm
Bangs Center, Lower Meeting Room**

Present: Peggy Roberts, Mary Streeter, Alan Powell, Barbara Ford, Jacqueline Maidana, Chris Riddle, Patricia Holland

Peggy Roberts called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

1. **Public Comment:** None.
2. **Postcard to Members Whose Terms Are Expiring:** Alan finished drafting the postcards and Town Hall will shortly mail them out to the 91 TM members whose terms are expiring this year. A few new members may be elected to fill vacancies at the Special Town Meeting on Jan. 30th.
3. **Forum to Inform Public About Town Meeting:** Mary proposed holding a forum to explain how to run for TM and answer questions about it. The date would be Jan. 18, 2017, in Bangs Center room 101. She and Barbara will do publicity. It will need to be posted with the Town as a TMCC meeting, and Mary will announce it on the TMCC web page.
4. **Preparing for January 30 Special Town Meeting:** We decided not to hold precinct meetings to discuss school construction, the sole issue for the Jan. 30th TM.
5. **Access to Town Meeting Members:** We discussed at length whether to provide all TM members' email addresses to enhance citizens' access, even though their addresses and telephone numbers are already available. Mary proposed surveying TM members for their opinions on the matter. Jacquie noted that her work with the Charter Commission has shown that some people complain they cannot inform their TM representatives about views on an issue. Peggy objected that to do this right now would confuse this issue with the school construction issue. We decided postpone the decision to in order to hear what SPP thinks.
6. **Evaluations of Town Meeting Events:** Not enough time to discuss.
7. **Select Board Concerns:** Not enough time to discuss.
8. **Subcommittee Work:** Chris conveyed the minutes of subcommittee's meeting of Dec. 22, 2016. There were four proposals: Town committees should report both the pros and cons on the issues they deal with. The TM warrant should be closed early enough so all committee reports can be completed. Deadlines for submitting TM petition articles should be publicized. TM members should vote on whether their email addresses should be published.
9. **Discussion with Moderator and Others:** No time to discuss.
10. **Timeline for Future TMCC Events:** No time to discuss.
11. **Scheduling of Next Meeting:** Our next meetings will be Monday, Jan. 9, 2017, at 4:40-6:30 PM, and

Tuesday, Jan.17, 2017, at 4:30-6:30 PM.

12. **Town Website and Listserv:** No time to discuss.
13. **Minutes:** We approved the minutes of Dec. 19, 2016, as amended.
14. **Topics Not Anticipated 48 Hours Before Meeting: Increase in Budget from Town:** Peggy reported that the town manager will try to get an increase in funds for this committee from the current \$1400/year to \$2000/year, to cover higher costs for TM members' dependent care costs as well as higher bus costs for a wheelchair accessible bus.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Minutes submitted by Patricia Holland, Clerk.

Documents Distributed:

Agenda

Minutes of Sept. 29, Oct. 18, Oct. 21, Oct. 28, and Dec. 19, 2016